

Hobart Henley Productions 70%

present

HOPE HAMPTON.....100%

in

"STARDUST".....100%

Suggested by Fannie Hurst's famous story 50%

A First National (T.M.) Attraction 25%

Directed by Hobart Henley

CAST

Lily Becker).....Edna Ross	Albert Penny).....Noel Tearle
).....Hope Hampton).....Ashley Buck
Henry BeckerThomas Maguire	Antonio MarvelliGeorge Humbert
Mrs. BeckerMrs. Mary Foy	Daisy CameronGladys Wilson
Jethro PennyCharles Musset	Bruce VisigothCharles Well
Mrs. PennyVivia Ogden	Thomas ClemonsJames Rennie

SYNOPSIS

Born of middle class parents in the middle class western town of Paradise, Lily Becker was from the beginning a rare and sensitized soul with a longing to express herself in music. Her environment afforded her little sympathy, and as she grew into womanhood, she found herself forced into a most unhappy marriage with Albert Penny, the vulgar son of a vulgar but prosperous neighbor. Life in the Penny household was worse than at home, where at least she had her old spinnet and her father's rather inadequate, but deeply loving sympathy. Her mother-in-law was cruel to her, her husband brutish and insensate. The climax came one night when Albert and his mother were particularly outrageous, and Lily ran away from Paradise to seek her living in New York.

Once in the city, Lily managed to get a hearing from the director of the Cosmopolitan Opera House, but her voice needed training and Marvelli, the great teacher to whom she was recommended, named \$25.00 a lesson as his price. With her dream definitely out of her reach, the bitter struggle of a young girl versus a great city became Lily's lot.

In her cheap and tawdry boarding house, she had come to know a friendly chorus girl, Daisy Cameron. When Lily learned one night that she was to be a mother, it was Daisy who took her to the manager of a new theatrical show for a place in the chorus. Visigoth, a wealthy, middle-aged man who was backing the production, became interested in Lily and she was given a part. But after her baby was born and she was unable to leave New York with the show, she was obliged to repulse Visigoth's dishonorable advances, and found herself without a job and without resources. The baby's death crushed her still further, and she even humiliated herself so far as to wire Albert Penny for money. The reply came back that she had made her own bed and must lie on it. In despair she invested ten cents in a bottle of carbolic acid and seated herself on a bench in the park to await death.

But death did not come. A young man who had been watching her from the other end of the bench crossed over to her, examined the bottle, and told her the druggist had sold her water, not poison. The young man's name was Tom Clemons, and he explained that he was a composer who had found that art and commercial success did not go together and that, like Lily, he was planning suicide. They decided to put off death long enough to dine together. Upon reaching her boarding house, Lily found a money order from her old father, who had at last asserted himself, and she joyously invited Tom to be her guest. At the Italian restaurant where they went for dinner, Lily was suddenly seized upon by Marvelli, the expensive singing teacher. He had been trying to find Lily ever since he had dismissed her, to tell her he would train her voice without money, for the sheer pleasure of doing it.

A year of hard work followed, in which Lily was thoroughly groomed for her operatic debut. Society opened its arms to her, and she was rewarded with a contract with the Cosmopolitan Opera Company, and her opening planned in the role of "Thais". And the death of Albert Penny in a railroad accident removes the last obstacle to her success and happiness.

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Title Page

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Directed by Hobart Henley

*Author of photoplay Associated First National
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